



EU-884-834-842-45

Practitioner's Pocket No. 2001-0935.ORI

PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re App: Timothy A. Bott

Serial No.: 09/976,384

Filed: October 11, 2001

Art Unit: 3635

Examiner: Thissell, Jennifer I.

For: Reinforcing System For Stackable Retaining Wall Units

**RECEIVED**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SEP 10 2003

**GROUP 3600**


**Information Disclosure Statement Under Rule 1.56**

Applicant(s) herein make available to the Patent and Trademark Office a copy of Form PTO-1449 (one form is enclosed), and a copy of each cited reference is enclosed along with any translations, partial translations, or abstracts referred to below. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provision(s):

- [X] 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1) Within three months of the filing date of the national application. No fee is required.
- [ ] 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in the international application. No fee is required.
- [X] 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No fee is required.

{15940.DOC}

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 3, 2003 by applicant's attorney, Robert J. Jacobson.

  
Robert J. Jacobson, Reg. No. 32,419

(Information Disclosure Statement--page 1 of 5)

- [ ] 37 CFR 1.97(c) After (if applicable, such as where the Office Action and this IDS cross in the mail) the periods specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of either: (1) a final action under § 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first.
- [ ] The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
- [ ] The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
- [ ] Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$240.00 for the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0789.
- [ ] 37 CFR 1.97(d) After the mailing date of either (1) a final action under § 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee.
- [ ] The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, or

[ ] The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; and

[ ] Applicant(s) hereby petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to consider this information disclosure statement. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$130.00 for the petition fee set forth in § 1.17(i)(1). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0789.

[ ] 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) A concise explanation of the relevance as it is presently understood by the individual designated in § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent, publication, or other information listed that is not in the English language. If listed below, the following references are being submitted under this provision:

◆ No references apply here

[ ] 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(ii) A copy of the translation if a written English-language translation of a non-English-language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody, or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in § 1.56(c). If listed below, the following references are being submitted under this provision:

◆ No references apply here

[ ] 37 CFR 1.98(c) When the disclosures of two or more patents or publications listed in an information

disclosure statement are substantively cumulative, a copy of one of the patents or publication may be submitted without copies of the other patents or publications, provided that it is stated that these other patents or publications are cumulative. If listed below, the following references are being submitted under this provision where each of the references within the following groups of references is believed to be cumulative of the other reference in said group:

♦ No references apply here

The listed documents are brought to the Examiner's attention because they are known to the applicant and/or the applicant's attorney and may be considered by the Examiner to be material to his/her examination. This listing should not be construed as representation that a search has been made or that no better art exists. No inference should be made that the documents are in fact material merely because they are referenced herein. Moreover, no representation is made that any brief descriptions of the references herein necessarily describe the most material aspects of the references. Further, by this listing, the applicant is not making any admission regarding the relative dates of the invention and listed disclosures.

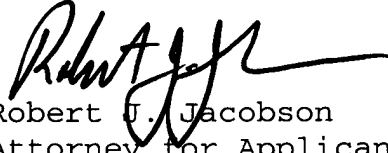
The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of these documents in connection with the examination of the above-identified application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104(a). It is requested that the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this application (M.P.E.P. 1302.12), and that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the form to evidence consideration of the documents.

For the information of The Patent Office, please find further enclosed an EPO Communication (document "a") dated July 31, 2003 (one page) having a European Search Report (one page) and an Annex to the European Search Report (one page) listing references b-f.

Dated: September 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

HAUGEN LAW FIRM PLLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Jacobson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Jacobson  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 32,419  
1130 TCF Tower  
121 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Phone: 612-339-8300

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2001-0935.ORI

Application Number

09/976,384

Applicant(s)

Timothy A. Bott

Filing Date

October 11, 2001

Group Art Unit

3635

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	b	5,921,715	07/13/1999	Rainey	405	262	
	c	2001/0014255	08/16/2001	Orsat	405	15	
	d	6,224,295	05/01/2001	Price et al.	405	262	
	e	5,975,810	11/02/1999	Taylor et al.	405	262	
	f	4,703,602	11/03/1987	Pardo	52	564	



**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 10 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.